

Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board 105 5th Street, Suite 206 Richmond, KY 40475 859.624.4700 / 859.986.7565



Reagan Taylor Craig Williams Co-Chairs

Doug Hindman Chair

Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting Summary of Action Items and Discussions Dec. 13, 2017 Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Richmond, Kentucky

Attendees

CAC: Doug Hindman, Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Sheila Pressley, April Webb (for Jon Maybriar) and Craig Williams

CDCAB: David Benge, Jeff Brubaker, Jeanne Hibberd, Doug Hindman, Ron Hink, Mike Hogg, Sheila Johnson (for Lt. Col. Scott Gould), Leslie Kaylor, Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Tara Long, Alyshia Martin (for U.S. Rep. Andy Barr's office), Darcy Maupin, Bryan Makinen, Carl Palmer, Sheila Pressley, George Shuplinkov (for Col. Norbert Fochs), Reagan Taylor, April Webb (for Jon Maybriar), Craig Williams and Ethan Witt (for U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell's office)

Media Attendees:

The Richmond Register: Kelly McKinney Lexington Herald-Leader: Greg Kocher

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Video: Initiative to Improve Program Efficiency
- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) Permitting Updates
- Discussion on Meeting Frequency

Meeting Summary Structure

This meeting summary is not intended to be a verbatim record of conversations; instead, it will provide an overview of the discussions and action items of government representatives and various members of the CAC and CDCAB. Key action items identified in the meeting and a synopsis of the major questions and comments discussed during the various updates are noted below. Copies of slides and handouts presented during the meeting can be obtained from the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office (ORO) at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Action Items

None.

Outline of Key Issues and Discussions

Welcome and Introductions - Sarah Parke, Manager, ORO

Parke welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted there were no action items from the Sept. 14, 2017, CAC/CDCAB meeting.

Opening Remarks - Reagan Taylor and Craig Williams, Co-Chairs, CDCAB

Taylor welcomed attendees and wished them a merry Christmas. Williams seconded Taylor's remarks and said Harry Moberly and Diane Kerby would not be able to attend and Doug Hindman would arrive late. He thanked attendees for coming to the meeting.

Key Updates

Video: Initiative to Improve Program Efficiency – Suzanne Milchling, Program Executive Officer, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives

Video available upon request by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Jeff Brubaker introduced this program efficiency brainstorming initiative video. He said Milchling promised transparency and to keep the citizens' groups informed as options emerged and this video is her update to the CAC/CDCAB. Brubaker said approximately 400 suggestions and comments have been received on this initiative, and Milchling prepared this video since she could not be at this meeting. The Colorado CAC will see the same video to ensure both CACs receive the same update. Brubaker said he could respond to questions after the video and anything he could not answer would be provided to Milchling. There were no questions after the video.

Dec. 13, 2017 (Page 2 of 7)

BGCAPP Project Update – Jeff Brubaker, Site Project Manager (SPM), BGCAPP, and Ron Hink, Project Manager, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG)

Slides of this presentation may be obtained by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Brubaker and Hink began their briefing by showing the Kentucky Chemical Weapons Destruction: 2017 Year in Review video. Brubaker then said the plant experienced a successful year overall and provided winter and spring highlights, noting the start of systemization of some of the first-of-a-kind equipment and the identification of 32 major testing milestones the plant will be working toward. He said the plant has achieved all milestones identified to be completed in 2017, including turnover of all mechanical conveyor systems and neutralization-based systems. Hink provided summer and fall highlights, noting Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT) pre-systemization activities resumed in the fall with the receipt of supplemental funding. Brubaker showed the site photograph and said most of the work now is indoors. One example of exterior work remaining is the installation of the facility's security fencing. He then showed the plant's roadmap to initiation of operations and said the plant is making progress in testing and developing items to be addressed during the Operational Readiness Review (ORR), as well as with the permitting process with the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP). Brubaker said the plant's Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) draft permit is expected to be issued shortly, facility construction certification packages are out for review and the plant is working on a draft of the organic air permit. He noted the plant is also meeting two times a month with depot organizations to make sure all is in alignment.

Mark Klaas asked if the EDT project was on the plant's roadmap. Brubaker said an EDT roadmap will be provided at the next meeting.

Hink reported on safety, pointing out the plant's participation in the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Voluntary Protection program, and said recordable injuries were very minor. He said the plant has a staff of about 800 right now and hiring will ramp up around 300 people in the coming months. Brubaker showed the economic forecast and noted the peak personnel period will be 2021 to 2023. He said with the resumption of the EDT project, destruction of the mustard munitions may start sooner and the values may shift to the left, noting EDT will account for 150-200 people. Brubaker then said permit modification requests will be submitted in the February/March 2018 timeframe regarding rocket-motor storage and the storage of greater-than-one Vapor Screening Level (VSL) waste, both of which the project had briefed to the Secondary Waste Working Group (SWWG) Dec. 4. He said the rocket motor storage request is to provide storage from 90 days to one year, as a contingency. Two igloos on the depot will be prepped for shipment of non-contaminated rocket motors. On the greater-than-one VSL waste topic, Brubaker said it would be unlikely for the EDT project to generate this kind of waste with the processing of mustard agent. He discussed modifying a Blue Grass Army Depot building. He said the waste will be very secure, as it will be triple-bagged and sealed in drums, and the building will be under filtration and

Dec. 13, 2017 (Page 3 of 7)

monitored. Hink spoke on the supplemental funding topic and said the EDT schedule has been accelerated and the main challenge will be hiring, as they are hiring locally and training personnel. He said the EDT start date is now anticipated to be near the start date of the main plant, with similar ORRs.

Craig Williams asked if the hiring ramp-up referred to the main plant only. Hink said the ramp-up will be for both main plant and EDT and said successful hiring depends on new hires meeting the Chemical Personnel Reliability Program requirements, as they have had an approximately 30 percent wash-out rate. Williams asked if the 300 people to be hired included for EDT. Hink said no, the 150-200 EDT hires will be additional to the main plant's 300. Williams totaled the numbers for 450-500 new hires in the near future and said he assumed hiring notification would be broad. Hink said yes, and they are also targeting ex-military members and specific areas of the community. Taylor asked how long the jobs will last and Hink said about a year for EDT and the main plant will be until December 2023, with about 18 months decommissioning after that. Williams asked if the EDT workforce could be integrated into the main plant when EDT is done. Hink said it makes sense for some positions, but not for all. David Benge asked when it was expected these people would be hired. Brubaker said starting in February and Hink said it would take about a year. Williams asked if chambers of commerce in the surrounding areas were being made aware of these openings. Hink said they will be, that it is part of BPBG's hiring strategy.

Hink then noted current demonstrations of major plant systems. Brubaker gave a Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) update, noting the new project manager Bret Griebenow, provided information on their baseline reconfiguration of 105mm munitions, and discussed the challenges the plant has been facing which led to their operational pause. Craig Williams said it was important to note that all PCAPP munitions are mustard and BGCAPP will not have PCAPP's issues as BGCAPP is using EDT for mustard munitions. Williams said BGCAPP may experience different challenges, however. Brubaker said he and Hink have been very busy looking at BGCAPP systems for common and single points of failure.

Jeanne Hibberd asked if there had been any agent-related injuries at PCAPP. Brubaker said no, that PCAPP's conduct of operations and training have been exceptional. Mike Hogg asked if management was looking for blind spots that could slow the BGCAPP schedule. Brubaker replied yes, he and Hink are looking through each of the process items and the sites are engaged in providing input to ACWA via Milchling's initiative program.

Hindman asked what "optimize equipment availability" meant as referenced in the PCAPP operational pause and if that referred to long lead-time parts that needed to be ordered. Brubaker said yes, but that was only part of it. He referred to two of the PCAPP systems the plant had been having some issues with and some redesign efforts. Brubaker pointed out there may be some emphasis for BGCAPP changes based on PCAPP findings, but said he wanted to make clear BGCAPP and PCAPP are two very different plants.

Dec. 13, 2017 (Page 4 of 7)

KDEP Permitting Update - Dale Burton, Blue Grass Army Depot Section, KDEP

Burton said a 45-day comment period will open Sunday for two permit modifications, with a public meeting followed by a public hearing to be held at EKU Jan. 31 at 6 and 7 p.m., respectively. He said new hazardous waste regulation packages became active last week. He introduced the writers of each permit and they provided information about their respective permits to the group:

RD&D Permit Modification: Ted Malone showed a slide of all Blue Grass Army Depot permits and then discussed the RD&D permit modification, saying there were two applications for changes to the permit, Revision 6a and a Class 2 Modification Request. He said there have been many changes to the RD&D permit, mostly regarding reduction in BGCAPP treatment units. Perimeter monitoring, Waste Transfer Station, removal of the munitions washout, changes for cyanide reduction, shipment of non-contaminated rocket motors and the change from Destruction Efficiency to Destruction and Removal Efficiency (DRE) have also been added. Malone said there is a compliance schedule of about 20 items, which include a revised Human Health Risk Assessment, a Pilot Test Demonstration Plan and a requirement for final approval from KDEP prior to start of agent operations.

Williams pointed out the first three items on the changes to the facility were agreed to a long time ago, while the rest of the changes have been processed through the CDCAB working groups and greater CAC/CDCAB. He said the groups have been involved with these changes and will continue to be going forward.

GB Sampling Permit: Shaina Khan discussed this permit, saying handling and transportation within the Chemical Limited Area is considered hazardous waste treatment. She gave an overview of the operation and noted the affected projectiles do not include energetics or bursters. Khan said the process is expected to take six days, but that is an estimate. She said the permit details will be available in area repositories and on the ACWA website. Khan then provided a summary of chemical agent permit actions and actions anticipated in the future. She said response to comments and permit issuance will follow a few weeks after the end of the comment period, depending on number of comments. Williams noted this process was first discussed using rockets and there was a lot of concern due to the explosives. After discussion, it was decided to use projectiles to lessen the risk.

Williams asked if sampling would have to be done on VX like GB. Khan said not as far as she knows.

Discussion on Meeting Frequency – Jeff Brubaker, Site Project Manager, BGCAPP

Brubaker said he spoke with Williams and Hindman after last week's SWWG meeting about the frequency of group meetings in the future, as with the momentum of progress

Dec. 13, 2017 (Page 5 of 7)

at the plant meetings may need to be held more frequently. He gave examples of six upcoming items that will need focus in 2018: final preparation for EDT operations and the sequencing of the mustard-agent destruction; final plans and decisions for rocket-motor disposal; continuing discussion of secondary waste shipment planning; working collaboratively on understanding DRE; working on National Environmental Protection Act and perhaps Resource Conservation and Recovery Act activities for the plant's Plan B for hydrolysate; and once there are firm recommendations on Milchling initiatives, discussion and moving forward with those items. He wants to continue the process of information sharing and allowing for discussions. Brubaker then noted Williams and Hindman had come prepared with some items on this topic to discuss.

Williams said the primary issue is how to modify the recommendation process everyone is used to. He has reached out to members and created a Process Working Group (PWG) of several who have worked on similar issues, and said the group is open to additional interested members. He noted as the plant is moving toward operations more frequent meetings will be required. Hindman said there are a lot of issues that need focus and with PCAPP's unexpected problems, it has to be believed BGCAPP will have issues as well. He opined the group should meet once a month and proposed after meeting, the group would send a summary to the greater group and give them a week to express concerns or comments, then send a recommendation to Brubaker. He feels this will hopefully speed up the process. Williams noted silence will be taken as approval, and it will be worded that way in the requests for comment when draft recommendations are sent. He said that is the proposal but he is open to better ideas. Hindman said the concern was if the group meets monthly and saves up their recommendations to the next quarterly meeting, it could delay project progress and overwhelm the group meeting. Hibberd asked if it would affect the existing working groups. Williams said he thinks all the other working groups will fall into this bucket. Brubaker recommended late January to start the new meetings and to not meet the months of the guarterly meetings. Williams said the monthly format is not locked in stone and asked PWG members to let him know of any meetings they might have that may need to be scheduled around.

Parke provided information for a CAC/CDCAB tour of the plant Jan. 18 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Brubaker noted as things are getting more restrictive in the plant this may be the last time for a comprehensive walk-though.

Closing Remarks – Doug Hindman, Chair, CAC, and Reagan Taylor and Craig Williams, Co-Chairs, CDCAB

Taylor wished attendees a happy New Year, a merry Christmas and safe travels, and said he appreciates everyone's due diligence in working toward getting rid of the chemical agent.

Williams introduced Alyshia Martin and said he was glad she was at the meeting to represent Barr.

Dec. 13, 2017 (Page 6 of 7)

Hindman thanked KDEP for all of the permit work.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. at the EKU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

#

Dec. 13, 2017 (Page 7 of 7)